Friday, May 25, 2012 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 166 P18 | Mobile Alert: Text INQ ON BREAKING to 4467 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Jessica hugs 'Idol' Phillip: This rock guy worked harder

By Ruben V. Nepales
Los Angeles correspondent

LOS ANGELES—After losing to Phillip Phillips in the world record viewer-voting finale of "American Idol" on Wednesday evening (Thursday morning in Manila), Jessica Sanchez appeared genuinely happy for the bluesy Georgia guitar man, the fifth male "Idol" winner in a row.

"I gave him a big hug. I love him so much. He has worked harder than most of us," the young vocal powerhouse said of rival Phillips backstage at Nokia Theatre in downtown Los Angeles.

JESSICA/A13

FLAG-WAVING fans in Samal, Bataan, cheer as Jessica Sanchez appears on the giant screen put up in the town's covered court during yesterday's finale of "American Idol." Jessica lost but she remains an all-time winner in the hearts of the Samal folk, according to Mayor Generoso dela Fuente.

'Corona will return' against docs' advice

CJ convinced of need to be back, says Cuevas

By Kristine Felisse Mangunay, Christian V. Esguerra and TJ Burgonio

AGAINST HIS doctors' advice, Chief Justice Renato Corona is returning to the Senate impeachment court today amid warnings from his lawyers that the trial would be tarnished with illegality if the defense was forced to rest its case prematurely.

Corona's doctors at The Medical City in Pasig imposed the condition that if Corona goes back to the Senate trial, he would have to sign a waiver stating it would be his own responsibility if he suffered a heart attack while outside the hospital.

Corona, who has been confined at the hospital since Tuesday night, signed the waiver.

Speaking to reporters, the chief defense counsel, Serafin Cuevas, said in Filipino that he had told Corona that he could not avoid going to the Senate because "the judges might think that you're not giving them enough information."

"We were able to convince him," Cuevas said.

Pressed if Corona would definitely be at the Senate, Cuevas said: "Yes, he will be there."

Corona's doctors told a news conference that while the Chief Justice's condition was "stable" and while his blood sugar and kidney functions were also "stable," they advised him against leaving the hospital and attending the

CORONA/A10

This doc won't let him return ▪
Leftists back CJ / A10



Marines upset; even Abu Sayyaf rooted for Jessica

By Robert Gonzaga
Inquirer Central Luzon

YOU CAN'T win 'em all.

It was like losing a battle for Marine troops in Zamboanga City, who were so upset about the "American Idol" results that "nobody wanted to eat, cook, fetch water."

Col. Orlando de Leon of the 2nd Marine Brigade in Sulu told the Inquirer by phone that he and his men took time off

MARINES/A4

'Idol' moments for senators / A8

Walkout sealed Corona's fate, says Jinggoy

By Christian V. Esguerra

WOULD Chief Justice Renato Corona's returning to the Senate impeachment court today save him from a fate he had sealed for himself by walking out on the senators on Tuesday?

Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Estrada yesterday said most of the 23 senators had already "made up their minds."

"He virtually hanged himself with that walkout," Estrada told the Inquirer in a phone interview. "It's practically suicide. Or he's killing himself slowly."

The defense panel insists Corona, a longtime diabetic, did not walk out on the senators, but left to seek medical attention for an attack of hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar.

But his sudden departure after making a statement in his own defense did not look like spurred by an emergency.

"The Chief Justice of the Philippines wishes to be excused," he said, then stepped down from the witness stand, shook hands around, and headed for the door.

He failed to get out, however, as the impeachment court's presiding officer, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, ordered a lockdown.

The Senate sergeant-at-arms, Jose Balajadia Jr., said he stopped Corona and his wife at the entrance.

WALKOUT/A6

Corona is object of P-Noy's sarcasm / A10



HILLARY CLINTON winks at a member of the US Senate's foreign relations committee during a hearing on the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea which the US has yet to ratify.

China's sea claims exceed what's allowed by int'l law, says Hillary

WASHINGTON—US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday said that China's claims in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea) exceeded what was permitted by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos) as the Obama administration began a new push to join the 30-year-old treaty.

Two Democratic senators also criticized Beijing's claims in the West Philippine Sea during a hearing of the Senate committee on foreign relations, where Clinton and top military leaders warned that Washington's failure to ratify Unclos weakened its support for US allies in the disputed waterway and put the US military at increasing risk of confrontation with China.

"China and other countries are staking out illegal claims in the South China Sea and elsewhere," said Democratic Sen. John Kerry, chair of the foreign relations committee.

During the hearing, Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer produced a map showing that China's claims extended far beyond its 320-kilometer (200-nautical-mile) exclusive economic zone provided for in Unclos and amounted to a "significant territorial grab that comes very close to the land borders of countries in the region."

China, which is among the more than 160 nations that are party to the convention that was concluded in 1982 and has been in force since 1994, has made expansive claims in the West Philippine Sea based on ancient maps.

A map that China submitted to the United Nations in 2009 claims virtually the entire strategic waterway, but the Asian power has failed to clarify the exact extent of its claims that overlap those of Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines, a US treaty ally.

Confrontations have erupted between China and some of

CHINA'S/A11

Clinton pushes for US Congress to ratify Unclos / A27

DFA chief to China: Shun war

By Jerry E. Esplanada

FOREIGN Secretary Albert del Rosario on Wednesday warned against settling disputes by armed force as China sent nearly 100 vessels to Scarborough Shoal, raising tensions with the Philippines in the disputed waters in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea).

Speaking before a United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on mediation, Del Rosario stressed that "the cost of conflict is too high in lives lost, in futures destroyed and in what must be done to rebuild."

"The Philippines was invited to speak as a leading voice in global mediation efforts," said the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

"We had to learn our lesson the hard and tragic way—by opening our doors to the pain, loss and suffering that the scourge of war can bring," Del Rosario said.

Del Rosario is leading the Philippines' efforts to bring the Scarborough Shoal dispute to the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (Itlos). Beijing has rejected internat

DFA CHIEF/A17

Gov't to go after PH fishermen, but not China's / A17

WHAT'S INSIDE

Second FrontPage

Senate to amend antilaundering law

SENATORS have reached a consensus to approve a bill amending the Anti-Money Laundering Act (Amla) and a bill against terrorist financing before adjourning on June 7, according to Sen. Franklin Drilon.

PH inspectors fail to find pests in bananas to China

Career congress held

Church remains against divorce —CBCP


A FULL-SERVICE SHOP
AT SM RESIDENCES FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS.
NOW THAT'S CONVENIENCE.
FIVE STARS!
Anne Curtis on location
at Berkeley Residences.
FIVE-STAR HOMES IN PRIME LOCATIONS.
SMDC
The good guys!
www.smdc.com



Correction

Customs watching 2 ports for signs of car smuggling

Ochoa warns vs impersonators

Cake baking classes

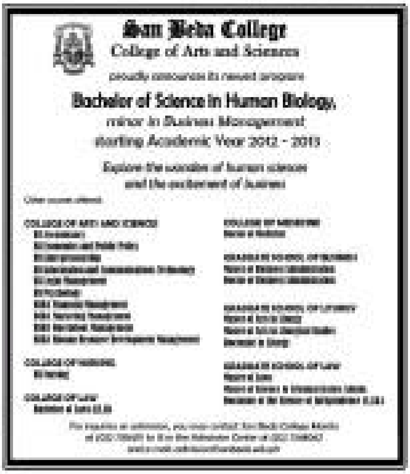








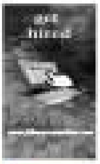








Rare heavenly treat coming–Venus transit







Pinoy nanny sues Sharon Stone





P-Noy kicks off annual schools cleanup

Partners with Unicef



Aussie universities now more attractive to Filipino students

Better incentives

DPWH clears way to schools

The Daily Gospel

Photodynamic Treatment - A new way of directly killing tumors



PH Sudoku champ bags 3rd in China

[illegible]

Walkout sealed Corona's fate, says Jinggoy



CORONA

Until fat lady sings

Substance of testimony

Full circle

How they will vote

Three articles

Truthfulness, moral fitness

Failure to report

Damaging testimony

'Idol' moments for senators

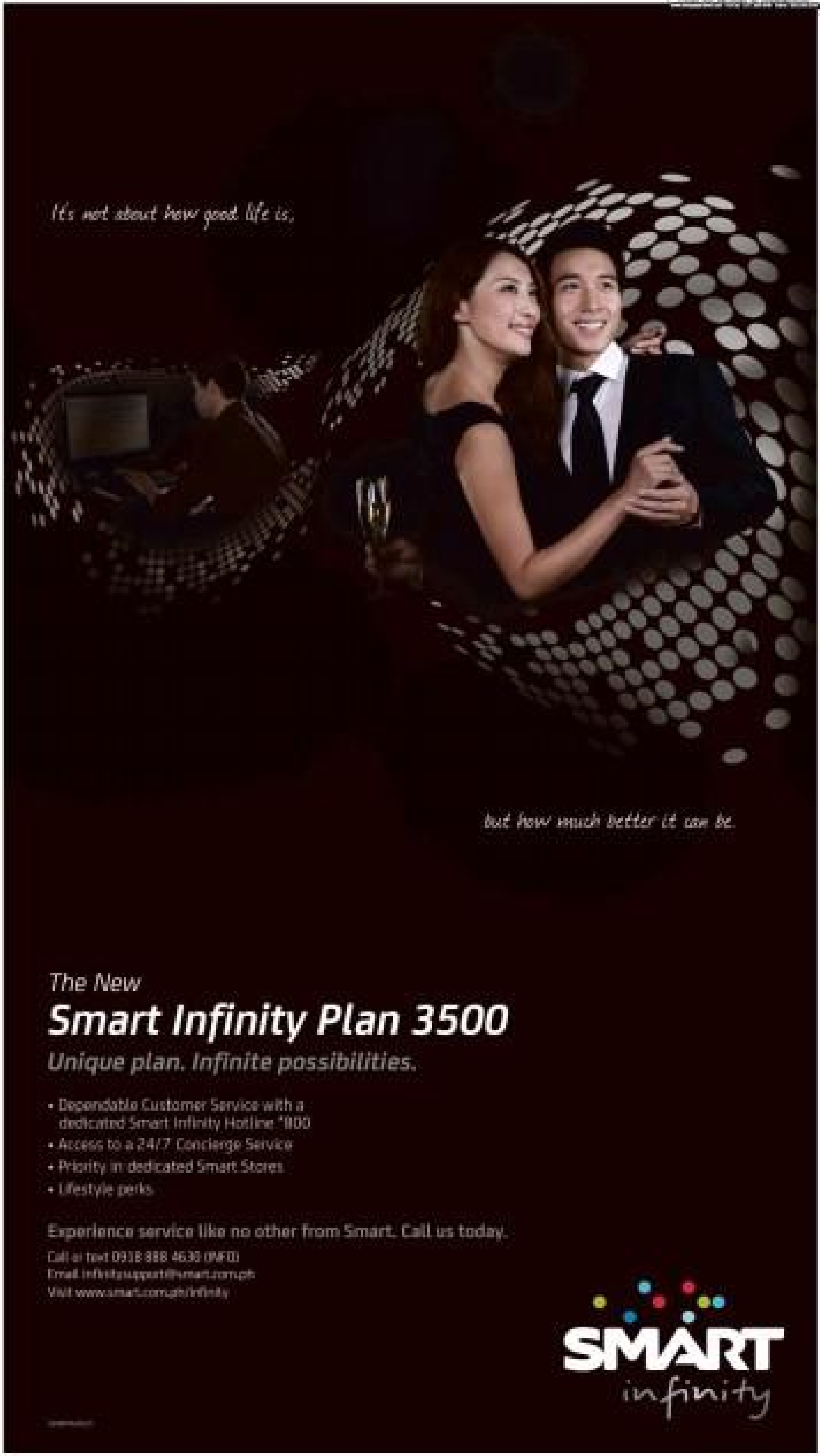
By Michael Lim Ubac

Marines upset; even Abu Sayyaf ...

Bugay clan

Not the end

'Idol' break


It's not about how good life is,
but how much better it can be.
The New
Smart Infinity Plan 3500
Unique plan. Infinite possibilities.
• Dependable Customer Service with a dedicated Smart Infinity Hotline *800
• Access to a 24/7 Concierge Service
• Priority in dedicated Smart Stores
• Lifestyle perks
Experience service like no other from Smart. Call us today.
Call or text 0918 888 4630 (INFO)
Email infinitysupport@smart.com.ph
Visit www.smart.com.ph/infinity
SMART
infinity

No Take 2 of impeachment drama, prosecutors hope

By Leila B. Salaverria



'WHEELCHAIR DIPLOMACY' Chief Justice Renato Corona on a wheelchair during Tuesday's drama-filled appearance at the impeachment court. Prosecutors hope there will be no such drama today when he appears as his lawyer Serafin Cuevas, had promised.

'Wheelchair diplomacy'

Must cross-examine

Prosecution fear

Defense team imploding

This doc won't let him return

By Jerome Aning



MEDICAL BULLETIN Dr. Eugenio Jose Ramos, senior vice president for the medical services group of The Medical City, gives the media an update on the medical condition of Chief Justice Renato Corona.

Corona is object of P-Noy's sarcasm

By Norman Bordadora

Unanswered questions

Leftists back CJ

Corona will return against docs' advice, says Cuevas

'We will abide'

Taken in ambulance

Obedience to court

Cuevas warning



LEAD DEFENSE counsel Serafin Cuevas is interviewed by media in the lawn The Medical City where Chief Justice Renato Corona is confined.

Testimony by video

Senators reject video

Closing argument

Protect our seafarers, PH envoy urges ship owners

Best management practices

Probe of Pinay's death in Mongolia sought

NGO pushes use of malunggay





Jessica hugs 'Idol' Phillip: Rock guy worked hard

Phillip himself confirmed that he would undergo kidney surgery before the start of the "Idol" concert tour this summer in the United States.

Different genres

"I don't blame it on anything," she said. "Phillip ...

Dave Matthews clone?

INQUIRER

OPINION

Lethal filial ties

EDITORIAL



Corona's 'moro-moro' at the Senate

AS I SEE IT



Neal H. Cruz

No factual, only legal and moral, issues left

PASSION FOR REASON



Raul C. Pangalangan

Will senators be influenced by Corona's walkout?

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

From one diabetic to another

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Will P1 million fit in your palm?

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Unbanked

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Opinion

Groping in the dark

LETTERS

How credible was Chief Justice Corona's May 22 testimony?



CHIEF JUSTICE Corona swearing before the impeachment court to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

USP on lawyer Jay Soriano's murder

CDA registration: better for EC members





China's sea claims exceed what's allowed by international law, says Hillary

From page A1

these countries, particularly the Philippines and Vietnam. Even the US military has had repeated run-ins in the waterway with Chinese vessels and aircraft, including a midair collision in 2001 that killed a Chinese jet pilot and forced a US Navy reconnaissance plane to make an emergency landing on China's Hainan Island.

'On the defensive'

To China's chagrin, the Obama administration has asserted since 2010 that although the United States is not itself a claimant state in the strategic waterway, it has an interest in the peaceful resolution of the disputes and in the freedom of navigation in waters that carry a huge chunk of global trade.

Washington has also declared support for countries threatened by China's claims.

Even so, Clinton told the Senate committee that "as a nonparty, we cede the legal high ground to China. We put ourselves on the defensive. We are not as strong an advocate for our friends and allies in the region as I would like us to be, and I don't think that's any place for the world's preeminent maritime power to find ourselves."

During the hearing, top military and defense officials also said that without the treaty the US military had been forced to base rights of navigation around the globe on customary international law, or long-standing practice, which was subject to differing interpretations.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Washington's ratification of the pact would strengthen US security interests as it would provide clarity in definition of navigational rights and maritime zones—at a time of growing competition for resources.

War at negotiating table

"And from that clarity comes stability. And as we now begin to rebalance our security interests into the Pacific, this becomes very important," Dempsey said.

"If we do not ratify now treaty, what would happen is that we put ourselves at risk of confrontation with others who are interpreting customary international law in their own benefit," he warned.

"If we are not a party to the treaty and can't deal with it at the (negotiating) table, then we have to deal with it at sea with our naval power," said Defense Secretary Leon Panetta. "And once that happens, you clearly increase the risk of confrontation."

He added, "Becoming a party to the treaty would give us immediate boost to US credibility as we push back against excessive maritime claims and illegal restrictions on our warships or commercial vessels."

Opposition

Panetta and Clinton told the Senate committee that Unclos would bring huge economic and military benefits to the country.

But the issue quickly ran into the same objections that have stymied the pact's passage since the mid-1990s. Twice in the past decade, the treaty was approved in committee level but the pact never made it to the floor for a vote by the full Senate.

Despite considerable bipartisan support and the backing of prominent groups for Unclos, Kerry acknowledged the difficulty in moving the treaty especially in an election year.

Several Republican lawmakers on Wednesday voiced opposition to the pact.

"My problem is with sovereignty," Republican Sen. Jim Risch said, flipping through the pages of the treaty. "There's 200 pages here, and as you read it, there's some good stuff in here. But if we have to give up one scintilla of sovereignty that this country has fought, has bled for . . . I can't vote for it."

Opponents of the treaty are also concerned it would cede US sovereignty to an international organization that would have the power to collect royalties on oil and mineral exploration and use the funds to help poorer countries.

More benefits

Proponents say the benefits far outweigh any drawbacks, citing support by groups as diverse as the Chamber of Commerce, environmentalists, members of the oil and gas industry, top US military officials and recent Republican and Democratic administrations.

The accord creates 370-km (200 nautical mile) exclusive economic zones that give coastal states rights of development and exploitation of natural resources but protect the ability of other countries to navigate, overfly and lay communications cables across the regions.

The treaty also grants coastal states rights on continental shelf regions beyond the economic zones.

Because of its extensive coastal regions, the United States stands to benefit more than other countries by joining the treaty, proponents say. It would extend US sovereignty to vast areas of the ocean, while granting the military's worldwide rights of navigation on firmer legal footing. *Reports from AP and Reuters*

Gov't to go after PH fishermen, but not China's

By Norman Bordadora

THE PHILIPPINE government won't go after Chinese fishermen who continue to fish and collect corals at Scarborough Shoal, Malacañang said yesterday.

But the Philippine Coast Guard will bar Filipino fishermen from the shoal, which both China and the Philippines claim.

China has declared a fishing ban in the area. The Philippines does not recognize the Chinese moratorium, but has declared its own fishing ban for conservation of marine resources in the disputed waters.

Answering questions from reporters, deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte said the "instructions to all agencies" were to prevent any act that would to testify tensions in the area.

Valte said Filipino fishermen were prohibited from fishing at Scarborough Shoal. But they are encouraged "to take advantage of the fishing aggregating devices that have been set up by the (Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources)," Valte said.

Valte was commenting on reports that Chinese fishermen continued to fish and gather protected corals at Scarborough Shoal despite China's ban on economic activities in the area.

There were also reports that the number of Chinese vessels at the shoal has increased to 92, including four government ships. In contrast, the Philippines has only two civilian vessels in the area.

The Philippines has filed a diplomatic protest, the seventh since the standoff began in April 8.

Valte said the government was awaiting the Chinese reply.

Addressing career guidance counselors yesterday, President Aquino played down the effects of the dispute with China on the Philippine economy.

The President did not name China in his speech, but said the dispute was nearing resolution.

China has suspended tourism to the Philippines and tightened inspection rules for Philippine banana exports.

Mr. Aquino said his critics were exaggerating the effects of the suspension on the Philippines' tourism industry. He said only 8 percent of the industry was affected.

The President did not say, however, how the negotiations for the resolution of the Scarborough dispute were going.

But Valte said the inspection rules for Philippine banana exports appeared to have been relaxed.

"I assume that (Agriculture) Secretary (Proceso) Alcala has already reported to the President that a total of 170 containers (have been) allowed to pass since Monday," Valte said.

Mr. Aquino on Wednesday swore into office two special envoys to China, Cesar Zalamea for trade and Domingo Lee for tourism.

The President still has to find a nominee for ambassador to China.

DFA chief: Shun war

From page A1

itional involvement and began to put an economic squeeze on Manila by suspending tourism to the Philippines and tightening inspection rules for Philippine banana exports.

Del Rosario reminded UN member states that settling disputes by peaceful means was what united them to build the organization 60 years ago.

Equality of states

The UN Charter, Del Rosario said, "also mandates the observance of the doctrine of the sovereign equality of states."

But "the sad reality is that the vast political and economic differences between states, including those in dispute, often render this doctrine dead letter law," he said.

The high-level meeting on mediation was convened and chaired by Nassir Abdulaziz al-Nasser, president of the UN General Assembly.

Nearly 100 vessels

Del Rosario has yet to comment on reports that China has increased the number of its vessels at Scarborough Shoal to 92 from 77 earlier this week. The vessels included four government ships, fishing and utility boats.

The Philippines has only two civilian vessels at the shoal, which both countries claim.

Vessels from both countries have been facing off with each other at the shoal since April 8, when Philippine authorities tried to arrest Chinese fishermen for poaching in the area.

On Monday, the DFA handed Chinese Ambassador Ma Keqing a diplomatic note—the seventh since the standoff began—to protest the increase in the number of Chinese vessels at the shoal.

The Philippines accused China of intensifying tensions at the shoal despite ongoing talks to settle the dispute peacefully.

Importance of mediation

In his remarks at the UN meeting, Del Rosario stressed the importance of mediation in settling disputes between small and large rival states, as in the dispute between Philippines and China over Scarborough Shoal.

"When parties are in a dispute, differences in political and economic power can often weigh against a fair, just, peaceful and lasting resolution," Del Rosario said.

"Mediation and other third-party mechanisms can level the playing field," he said. "These help ensure that although one party may lack in power, it can make up for it through reliance on the rule of law."

The Philippines believes in "mediation and other forms of third party dispute settlement, including judicial settlement, not only in principle but definitely in practice," Del Rosario said.

Immediate withdrawal

Manila demanded that Beijing immediately withdraw the vessels, saying China's actions violate Philippine sovereignty, the exclusive economic zone, the Declaration of Conduct on the South China Sea signed by China and Southeast Asian countries, and the UN Charter.

The Chinese foreign ministry responded by accusing the Philippines of "provocative actions" that its spokesperson Hong Lei did not specify.

Hong said the Chinese vessels at Huangyan Island—China's name for Scarborough Shoal—were working in the area according to "related Chinese laws and the fishing moratorium issued by the Chinese government."

The Philippines does not recognize the Chinese moratorium, but has declared its own fishing ban for conservation of marine resources in the area.

On Wednesday, DFA spokesperson Raul Hernandez reported that the Chinese vessels continued fishing and collecting protected corals despite China's fishing ban.

Yesterday, Hernandez said the Philippines was "exerting efforts to defuse the tensions in the area."

In a text message to the Inquirer, Hernandez said the Philippines hoped China would respond positively and refrain from further "actions that would "escalate tensions" at Scarborough Shoal.

Peaceful settlement

"Mediation forms an important part of a rules-based approach to the peaceful settlement of disputes. It is for this reason that we are pursuing this course in hoping to resolve the conflicting claims in the West Philippine Sea, as well as in addressing the (internal) conflicts in our country," Del Rosario said.

He cited the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes, adopted in 1982 by the UN General Assembly, which, he said, "remains relevant."

"The declaration stressed what is sometimes forgotten—that sovereign states that make up the world community are under a legal obligation to settle disputes in a peaceful manner," Del Rosario said.

"This is the most fundamental of legal norms in our world. If this most basic norm did not exist, there would be no infrastructure or infrastructure on which international law could rest."



BCDA on John Hay feud: 'What use of force?'

'We will take the necessary legal steps...'



Bad ice cream downs 87 people

Woman admits killing her kids, hiding bodies

By Carla P. Gomez, Inquirer Visayas

Across the NATION

Mayor says ransom paid for ex-mayor



WASTELAND

TAGUM CITY—A former mayor of a Surigao del Sur town was freed yesterday after his family paid ransom to a group of armed men led by a militiaman, according to the town's incumbent mayor.

Entire town police force sacked over slay probe

Gov vents anger on firm over Catanduanes outages

Storm parts curtains of mystery falls

Family of OFW dead in fall in Singapore cries murder



SPORTS

Big Chill nails second berth

NLEX pulls off historic sweep

By Cedelf P. Tupas



Filoil caging: Warriors duel Tigers; Cards face Knights

B-Meg takes on ROS today; Barako Bull gets going

By Musong R. Castillo



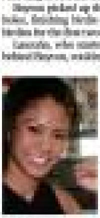
UST tossers warm up for semis, rip NU

By Cedelf P. Tupas

Rock-solid Bayron now 5 clear with second 69

By Musong R. Castillo





JULATON

Julaton dominates Mexican Segura

Karters tackle Boomland Sunday

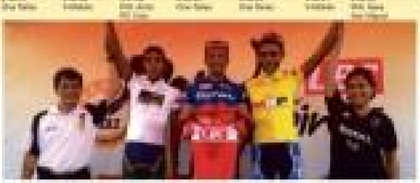
Olympic ring hope in Scoop

2012 LBC RONDA PILIPINAS

Martinez soloes it home in Stage 1





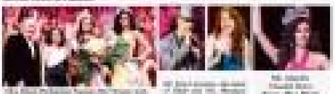


SLIMMERS WORLD INTERNATIONAL crowns Miss Bikini Philippines 2012!



Staging what is probably the most colorful and vibrant beauty and talent competition, Slimmers World International, Asia's leader in Slimming, Health & Beauty, crowned Ablygale Mondarin as this year's Miss Bikini Philippines.











National Games gets under way in Dumaguete today

How PH five became the world's No. 3

CLEAN LIVING



Manolo R. Iñigo



Sixers thwart Celtics, force knockout tiff

Asian Baseball: Razkals, Barakos rip foes

Stöckinger posts racing milestone



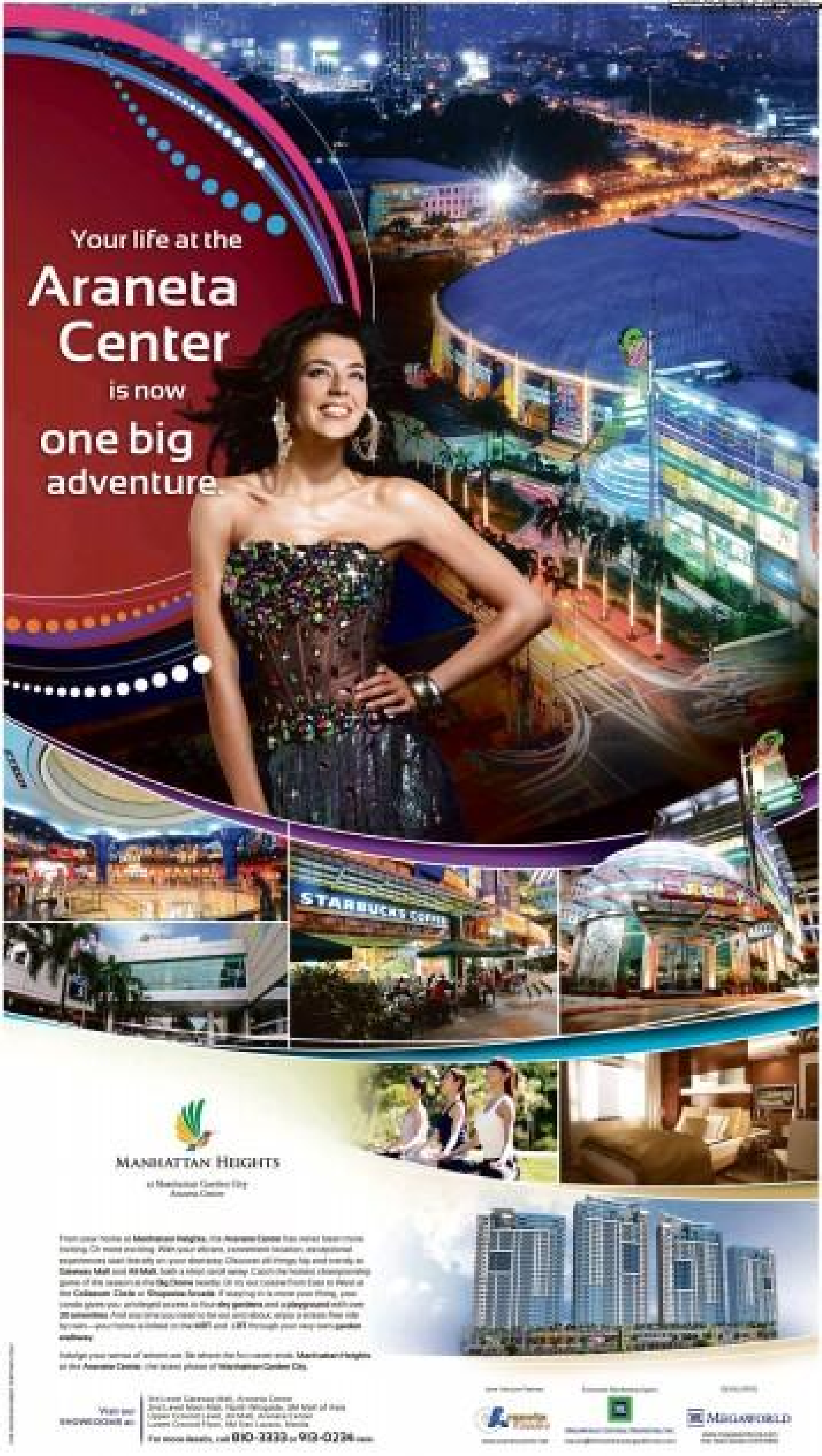
SPORTSWATCH

RACING TIPS

Carlos snares PBaRS ladies Open singles title; Gadi wins



CARLOS



Your life at the
Araneta
Center
is now
one big
adventure.
STARBUCKS COFFEE
MANHATTAN HEIGHTS
MEGAWORLD

A plus METRO

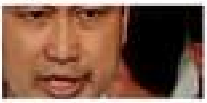
DID YOU KNOW

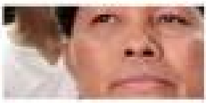
CIDG: QC cops 'demanded ₱20M'



Quezon City police chief stands ground, welcomes probe

NOW COMES another version of the incident that is drawing two units of the Philippine National Police into a head-on collision.





CHIEFS IN CONFLICT









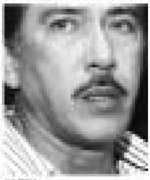
LAST DAYS OF SUMMER

Robredo: SAF man linked to bus blast still not talking

By TJ Yap

Woman who 'duped' Sotto's wife falls

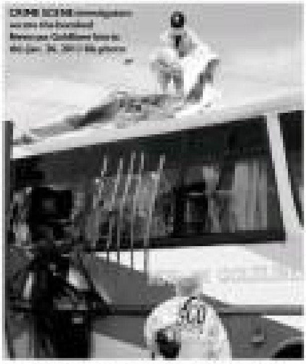
NBI also nabs text scam gang with Binay daughter's help



SOTTO



GAMBOA



QC court to 'T3': Keep off Raymart, Claudine

CIDG: Cops 'demanded ₱20M'

TUCP faction seeks review of ₱30 pay hike

METROBRIEFS

Makati reroutes traffic for 342nd anniv parade

2 nabbed for killing mom, daughter



TOUCH OFW GETS AID

Egypt votes in first free election for president



A WOMAN shows the ink on her finger after voting in Egypt's historic presidential election on May 23.

Internet voting still faces hurdles in US

Syria: Sanctions have bled $4B from economy



A BUILDING is on fire from shelling in Homs, Syria, as shown in an amateur video taken on May 23.

Law of the Sea treaty in US Congress again



CLINTON

Iran nuke talks hit snag over competing proposals

The WORLD

Doctor who helped find Bin Laden jailed

PESHAWAR, Pakistan—Pakistani authorities have sentenced a doctor accused of helping the CIA find Osama bin Laden to 33 years in jail on charges of treason, officials said, a move that drew angry condemnation from US officials already at odds with Islamabad.



AFRIDI



Brother of blind Chinese activist flees guarded village

Russia tests new missile designed to evade US shield

BUSINESS

BSP: Business sentiment still upbeat in Q2

Respondents expect higher demand for goods, services

BUSINESS sentiment in the Philippines remains positive, bolstering government claims that the country can withstand the adverse effects of a prolonged debt crisis in the euro zone.

Rate of rise in consumer prices seen to remain slow

INDICATOR

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

43.740



STOCK MARKET

24.31



Stocks dip on thin trade



Court orders DOTC to halt P8-B LTO bid process

Top transport official says TRO 'misapplied'

By Paolo G. Montecillo

A QUEZON City court has issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) to compel the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) to stop its search for a new information technology (IT) systems provider for the Land Transportation Office (LTO).

[illegible]



ROXAS

TOURISM CAMPAIGN

Turning fun in PH into hard cash

By Winston A. Marbella
Contributor

First of two parts

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism has more than just hundreds of billions of pesos riding on its blockbuster campaign, "It's more fun in the Philippines."

[illegible]



AN IFUGAO in traditional garb does his spin for the country's tourism efforts.

4.6 million jobs

[illegible]

Quick results

[illegible]

Going competitive

[illegible]

Persuasive power

[illegible]

BSP: Business sentiment still upbeat

From page B1

[illegible]

Stocks dip on thin trade

From page B1

[illegible]

Rate of rise in consumer prices

From page B1

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Gov't seeks control of air rights over PNR train tracks

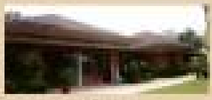
By Paolo G. Montecillo

HGC to be compensated, Roxas says

Sun Cellular Posts Highest IQ Growth Rate in Telco Industry

HANGOUT HAVENS NOW OPEN AT THE GROVE BY ROCKWELL











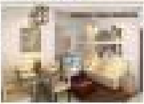


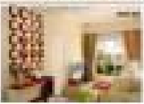
THE GROVE
Rockwell

Amid urban bustle, *a serene sanctuary*

Shanata





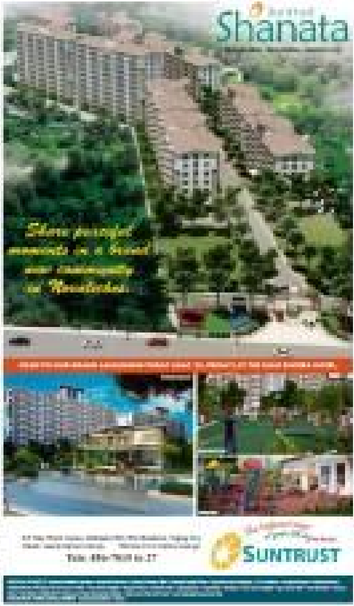











Shanata
SUNTRUST

NTT Com buys into local IT solutions provider

Japan firm acquiring 50.1% of DTSI holding company

By Doris C. Dumlao

Anchor Land Q1 profit rises by 23%

Reminder to job interviewers



Raul J. Palabrica

Impression

Physical

Marital status

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

Aboitiz eyes airport, water PPPs

Recto named PBCom chair; Ongpin remains cochair

PH gold holdings hit record level

PH strengths ensure growth despite external woes, BSP says

Business

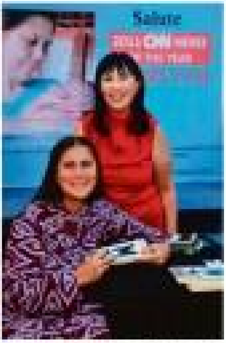
2011 Cnn Hero Robin Lim launches book at The Podium











BUSINESS

Business desk: Tel. 897-8808 | Website: www.inquirer.net/business | E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph | Tell us your feedback

Credit rating upgrade for PH up

By Nonoy W. Domingo

An investment-grade credit rating for the Philippines won't be far-fetched if fiscal reforms and the widening of the tax base continue, according to DBS Group.

The financial services provider said in a new research paper that rating agencies have taken notice of positive developments in the Philippine economy, particularly the continuing improvement in the country's debt profile.

DBS noted the ratio of government debt to the size of the economy, which dropped down to 49.3 percent in 2011 from as high as 74.4 percent in 2004.

"With a projected nominal GDP growth of 8.4 percent this year, the relative debt load will continue to fall," the Singapore-based group said.

The group added that the government, taking advantage of lower yields, has also been successful in lengthening its debt maturity profile — short-term debt accounted for 5.5 percent of total debt in March this year compared to 18.2 percent in March 2000.

"If the government maintains progress on fiscal reforms and continues to widen the tax base, an investment-grade status would not be too far-fetched an idea," DBS said.

Last year, Moody's Investors Service upgraded the government's foreign currency long-term rating to Ba2 or two notches below investment grade while Fitch Ratings raised its rating to BB+ or one notch below investment grade.

For its part, Standard and Poor's put the country on positive watch last December while maintaining a rating of BB or two notches below investment grade.

Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima has repeatedly called on the agencies to "reflect market sentiment" in assessing the country's creditworthiness, saying that the Philippines should already be enjoying an investment rating.

Also, DBS said the government's target deficit of P279 billion for this year "should be comfortably met" following the release of data that show an increase of 12.1 percent year-on-year in April expenditures.

Biazon-Purisima management legacy

COMMENTARY

THE BIAZON-PURISIMA (BP) tandem can leave a management legacy that can make the blood pressure (BP) of Philippine smugglers shoot up. With these, the smugglers' days will be numbered. Forgone annual revenues of at least P113 billion will be recovered, and thousands of lost livelihoods will hopefully be restored.

If management addresses the root problem, many of the other problems will easily be solved. Smuggling's root problem is that there is no transparency when it comes to imports. All imports are listed on the Inward Foreign Manifest (IFM). The IFM identifies the imported product, volume, country of origin, shipping vessel and date of arrival.

To avoid transparency, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) refuses to give this list to any other government agency. For agricultural products, it should give this list to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

If this happens, all DA has to do is compare the imported shipments with the DA's list of those with import permits. Shipments without these permits can be automatically confiscated upon arrival and the smugglers charged.

But BOC refuses to give this list to DA, though it used to do this under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Department of Finance (DOF) and the DA signed in January 2007. This was stopped because too many big smugglers were getting caught.

Last April 10, due in large part to a "pork and poultry holiday" protesting rampant smuggling, Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala wrote Purisima for the reinstitution of the automatic IFM transmittal to DA. On May 7, Biazon, in the presence of DOF Undersecretary Carlo Garcia, committed to farmer leaders that this would be done.

On May 22, Biazon told the Livestock Committee of the National Agricultural and Fisheries Council (NAFC) that this had not yet happened. He said that this still had to pass the DOF.

The NAFC Committee unanimously passed a resolution requesting BOC and DOF to act within seven days so that this root problem of no transparency could be finally solved.

Criticalities

The management principle of "critical few" has another variation, such as the 80-20 principle

BIAZON B2-1

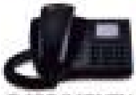




Live the Five-Star Lifestyle at the Philippines' Tallest Twin Towers

The BSA Twin Towers, located at St. Francis Square behind SM Megamall and the Podium, awarded as the Tallest Twin Towers in the Philippines by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH), Chicago, USA, takes the bar a notch higher with its carefully-appointed amenities to suit your fast paced and distinctive lifestyle. At BSA Twin Towers, enjoy the expansive feel of a relaxing home through the fascinating chandelier to start your every visit, the intricate day's wash with its crystal pieces cascading from the ceiling, contemporary and elegant condominium units, and other amenities such as the function rooms, gym/fitness centers, lagoon-inspired and lap pools, children's playground, lobby lounge and a lot more to let you experience the perfect balance between work and play. Witness grandeur translated to every unit and condominium-hotel room complemented with personalized services and convenient location. Invest only in the best location. Call 838-2388 or 632-1018 today. You can also visit us at the 4th floor of the St. Francis Square Mall, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.







BUSINESS Friday

Kids influence buying patterns, poll says





Top tips for the budding online marketer

Five key questions

Five tips to reach your audience

New online marketplace opens for small, large entrepreneurs





PATRICK S. Tang

GOINGS-ON

Filipino IT expert to speak in Asia's biggest ICT event

Manthan holds briefing

Shareholders sue Facebook

EU leaders support growth

Few concrete steps at end of summit

Asia shares ease on weak China PMI, Greek woes



A bigger adobo Football Cup awaits on May 26

Biazon-Purisima management legacy

Business

Meralco keen on making e-vehicles

Bidding for LRT contract faces further delay

Power Situation Outlook for Friday, 25 May 2012

PAEC commits to greening program





LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty



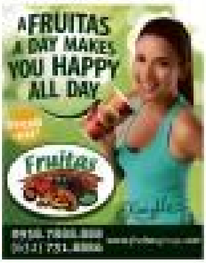
They wore Lady Gaga to Lady Gaga

Fans were inspired by their 'Mother Monster,' whose own outfits included what looked like a 'Gaga-fied terno' with butterfly sleeves

















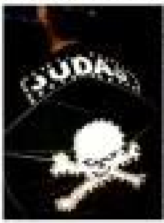








They wore Lady Gaga to Lady Gaga















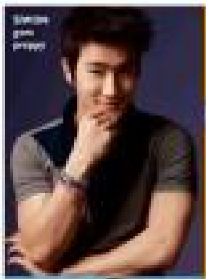




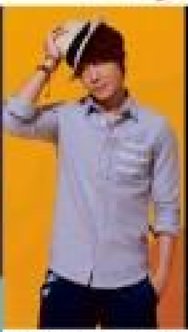
Pops of color, interesting designs







SIWON goes preppy



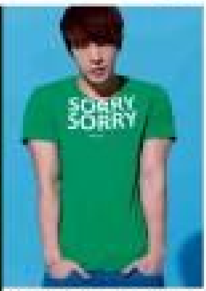
A PERFECT match for your summer days



SUPER Junior Choi Siwon, new endorser of Bench



SIWON proudly wearing an "I Love Bench" shirt



STATEMENT tee on Donghae inspired by Super Junior's famous song "Sorry Sorry"



KOREAN Bench stars

Bench taps K-Pop superstars

IT WILL continue to be a hot summer—a hot Korean summer—if Bench gets its way with its K-Pop Collection featuring Super Junior's Choi Siwon and Donghae.

Bench broke the news about its new K-Pop endorsers on the social media—Twitter and Facebook. Bench founder and CEO Ben Chan flew to Seoul to oversee the shoot, with stylists Noel Manapat and LA Gozalog Lopez.

The Korean superstars said they were glad to have the opportunity to endorse Bench, the Philippines' biggest retailer and only global brand.

The on-line design of the K-Pop collection is visually exciting and comfortable—Siwon's gray and blue combi cotton piqué shirt paired with dark Oil Americana denims, Donghae's "One Earth" orange baseball tee with navy raven trousers.

Siwon is also in light blue polo with white paisley print, gray undershirt and bright blue distressed painted denim. Donghae is in green "Sorry Sorry" T-shirt with distressed denim.

Also in the collection are a gray long-sleeved shirt with pocket paired with navy slim cargo pants, a Super Bench special tee in blue gray paired with oatmeal cargo pants, an "I Love Bench" T-shirt in Korean, a special edition tee in summer colors.



DONGHAE'S summer outfit: casual top with stylish cotton trousers



BENCH Body tees and long-sleeved polos spell hip and comfy







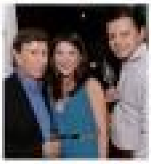








Oh, those fabulous homes











Without Batting an Eyelash



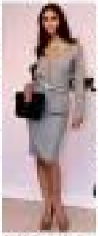
Maurice Arcache

Rustan's presents fashion to make heads turn

An urban jungle

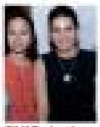




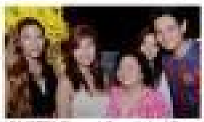




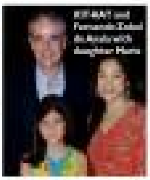




























Lacoste heir roughs it up to save the Philippine crocodile



In Isabela, he treks, crosses rivers–'It is all about giving back to the crocodile who has done so much for us'





Lacoste heir roughs it up to save the Philippine crocodile











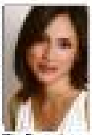


Vivid colors and tailored chic make it big this season



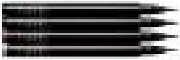
New must-haves for your 'kikay' kit

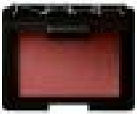
KNOCKOUT!



Ria Francisco-Prieto

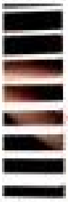


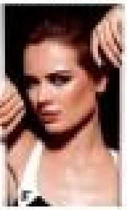




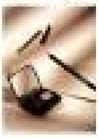










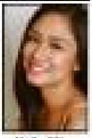




Creme or powder? Ways to look youthful without surgery

Mature skin requires a few tweaks to your regimen

TRICKS OF THE TRADE



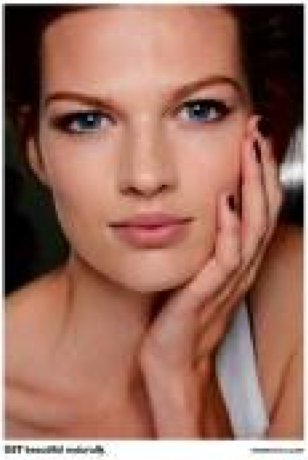
Kelly Misa

Exfoliate more often

Use sunscreen every day

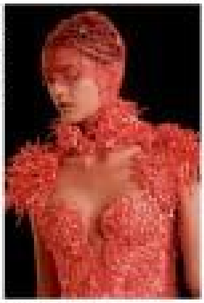
Moisturize

Creme vs powder?









Make mine coral















Beat Diabetes

Eating a healthy, balanced diet is essential in managing diabetes.



These simple tips will get you started.

1) Indulge on greens. Vegetables are the most nutrient-dense, low-calorie food you can eat to help manage blood sugar levels. These not only make



you full but also give your skin a natural glow.

2) Grab a handful of nuts. These will provide the fat in your diet to manage diabetes because it keeps you feeling satisfied. Spice up your salad or your dinner with almonds or walnuts.

3) Enjoy a hearty breakfast with a bowl of oatmeal. Oatmeal is a rich source of soluble fibre that helps lower cholesterol and prevents the onset of other health complications.

4) Hydrate everyday. Regular liquid intake helps regulate body temperature, flushes out toxins, and cushions the body from injury.

For a burst of sugary sweetness, sprinkle your favorite drink with organic coco sweetener, a healthy substitute for sugar that's good for diabetics and non-diabetics.

The products are available at the Health and Wellness Section in Robinsons Supermarket branches nationwide.









LIFESTYLE
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan
Contributing Editor Stef Gabol

Just in love—with Joe Jonas

Shrieks, screams fill the ballroom as Bench introduces its new heartthrob endorser

By Arnelle S. Tayao

THE SCREAMS, shrieks and singing of fans filled the Makati Shangri-La's Rizal Ballroom as they welcomed pop singer Joe Jonas, who is here as Bench's newest ambassador.

The 22-year-old Jonas, who shot to fame as lead vocalist of The Jonas Brothers—one of the three brothers—sang to a small but high-spirited group of female fans last Wednesday. The girls went euphoric over such hits as "Just in Love" and "See No More."

"They screamed along as we...

JOE E5











Pistachio

AN INTERESTING color for a guy sneaker. Be not afraid to experiment with this shade.

That 'sole-ful' Spanish vibe

The Ibiza club scene's vibrant—scented—footwear is here

SPAIN HAS always been synonymous with a sunny, colorful, fiesta vibe. And so are Flossy shoes.

Originally worn by sailing enthusiasts in Barcelona yachting clubs and by artists roaming Ibiza's harbors and small towns, Flossy shoes became a hit on the Ibiza club scene.

The past 20 years, the brand has become popular in Europe, thanks to its vibrant colors and comfortable styles.

Made by [illegible], it has a wide catalogue of traditional espadrilles, fashionable sports shoes and "plimsolls" (or "plimsoles," a type of athletic shoe with canvas upper and rubber sole).

Each product is carefully scrutinized, following the fine standards of Spanish craftsmanship. And for some surprise, the [illegible] is scented, keeping one's feet fresh longer.

We have selected a few pieces to help you welcome the new school year with a bang.

Flossy Shoes are distributed by [illegible] and are available in all [illegible].



Sneak freaks

THESE classic lace-up sneakers are available in a wide array of shades from [illegible] navy blue, black and grey to more adventurous hues such as pistachio, sky blue and purple.



Sendero

THESE [illegible] slip-ons, made of canvas materials with [illegible] design, are maritime-inspired footwear suited for a relaxed, preppy look.



Navy blue

A STAPLE color for every guy—one of the most versatile of hues, it goes well with practically everything.

Lucky Shopper Wins Over a Million in Shopping Credits at SM Department Store-MasterCard Promotion

Get a chance to win up to 10X of what you charge when you shop and use your MasterCard at SM Department Stores until June 30, 2012.

Almost 3 million pesos worth of SM shopping certificates have already been awarded to lucky shoppers in the ongoing MasterCard-SM Department Store Win Up to 10X of 'What You Charge' promo! One shopper won more than a million while two other shoppers have won nearly half a million pesos in SM shopping certificates. Six other shoppers have also won a combined total of more than 200,000 worth of SM shopping gift certificates.

Among the first lucky shoppers who used their MasterCard at SM Department Stores are: Mary Rose B. Tolentino (BDO MasterCard ATM, SM Baguio), Marie Claire V. Torres (BDO MasterCard, SM Cebu), Teodoro Pallasan, Jr. (BPI Express Credit MasterCard, SM Marikina), Fernando Pilares Tamayo (BPI Express Credit MasterCard, SM Megamall), Jellene Esteban (EastWest Bank MasterCard, SM Marikina), Fatima C. Fiesta (HSBC MasterCard, SM Southmall), Julie Raymundo Tirado (HSBC MasterCard, SM MOA), Gerardo O. Abrina (Metrobank MasterCard, SM Cubao) and Melita R. Guinto (Metrobank MasterCard, SM Bacoor).

"We always find ways to reward our loyal customers and this exciting promotion with MasterCard allows us to instantly give them a priceless experience each time they shop at any of our SM Department Stores," says SM senior vice president for controllership Ricky Lim.

Simply shop at any SM Department Store and every P5,000 single-receipt purchase entitles you to a scratch card for a chance to be among 875 lucky MasterCard cardholders to win 10X, 2X or 1X of what you charged!

Prizes may be claimed and used instantly for shopping! Simply surrender the winning scratch card, present the credit, debit or prepaid MasterCard charge slip, plus one valid ID for verification at the treasury manager's office SM Department Store branch where you won.

Ongoing until June 30, 2012, there are still hundreds of scratch cards just waiting to be won. So keep shopping with your MasterCard at SM Department Store and you could just win 10X, 5X or 1X of what you charged!







BENCH CEO Ben Chan, Joe Jonas, Raymond Gutierrez; above, fans with their creative posters and signs

Just in love . . .

From page E1

ery word, and cheered, "We love you, Joe!" and "You're so [illegible]!"

"I love you, too!" Joe shot back.

Fans also had a meet-and-greet with their idol, and joined a pop quiz with the event's host, Raymond Gutierrez. (Winners of the quiz took home Bench gift certificates.)

This is Jonas' first visit to the Philippines. He wanted to see the Philippines and this was one of the reasons he accepted the offer to endorse Bench.

He says he found the brand's clothing "really cool, something I would usually wear," particularly the polo shirts.

"I also get to perform here and meet the fans," he added.

Now a solo artist with his own album, "Fastlife," Jonas described his new sound as something more for dance.

"Me and my brothers have different [musical] inspirations," he said. "I've been more influenced by R'n'B."

Bench CEO Ben Chan led the welcome. "It's more fun in Bench," Chan said, to the roaring approval of fans.

Jonas will visit Bench stores to meet more fans—Trinoma on May 25, Glorietta 5, May 26, and Ayala Center Cebu, May 27.

For updates, like Bench's official Facebook page and follow @BenchTM on Twitter.

Join the mini cosplay and unite with animé fanatics!

THE EMBASSY of Japan in the Philippines is calling all anime and manga fans and true-blue cosplayers to get their costumes ready, dress up like their favorite anime character and join the Cosplay Mini Contest in celebration of the 2012 Philippines-Japan Friendship Month.



The Mini Cosplay Event is open to all Filipino cosplayers from all ages, who can cosplay any character from Japanese anime, manga, movies, TV series, J-Pop and J-Rock personalities. Costumes that are revealing and potentially harmful, such as bladed objects and pyrotechnics, are not allowed.

To join the contest, interested cosplayers are required to submit an accomplished application form, submit a 2x2 photograph, a full-body photograph in costume, and a photo of the character they are portraying. The Embassy of Japan will be selecting 15 entries, who will qualify for the grand finals. From the 15 finalists, three will be selected as winners, and will be awarded on July 21 at SM Mall of Asia's Music Hall.

Application forms are available at Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) Library, Embassy of Japan, 2627 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, or can be downloaded from www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp.

For further details, visit www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp, e-mail jicc-cosplay@ma.mofa.go.jp or call 551-5710 local 2318.

The top three finalists will take home exciting prizes! What are you waiting for? Stand out and shine in this mini cosplay event!

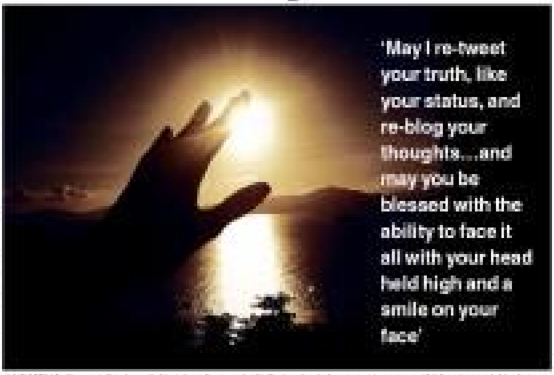


ART inspired by video game "Final Fantasy Type-0"

Our 'May' wishes for you



By Sarah Meier-Albano and Vicky Herrera



For my family

For my friends

For my significant other

For my enemy

For the country

For myself

Globe is first PH telco to carry latest BlackBerry® smartphones

Learn the language and more at the Nihongo Camp



Create an organized space



For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle

The way to luxuriate



While other developers tout luxurious living, Robinsons Luxuria keeps its word by letting investors indulge themselves in the privileged lifestyle

The promise of luxury seems to be a given in every residential condominium rising in the city today—but it's a tall order. Who, after all, can deliver on the commitment to provide demanding homeowners with uncompromising comfort, security, convenience, and exclusivity, all in a masterfully executed architectural package?

As the upscale residential brand of Robinsons Land Corporation, Robinsons Luxuria makes good on that promise, and more. The property developer behind top-notch residential buildings in Makati, Ortigas Center, Bonifacio Global City, and Cebu, Robinsons Luxuria indulges its highly-accomplished residents to the hilt by providing them with the most ideal locations, first-class suite living with iconic architecture and interior design concepts, the option to fashion a unit according to one's personal preferences, and amenities that go above and beyond the standard facilities and services of its closest rivals.

"The key word is 'luxuriate,'" declares Mylestte V. Aragon-Gobio, Robinsons Land Corporation's vice president for business development and financing. "We're all about creating a unique experience, personalizing the lifestyle. When you get to a certain social status in your life, some things are afforded to you: you get to customize your unit, and enjoy the best of the deliverables and specifications. We differentiate ourselves further by substantiating the promise to luxuriate by offering a seamless, pampered experience."

For four ongoing Luxuria projects—The Allegro and Sonata Private Residences in Ortigas Center, Signa Designer Residences in Salcedo Village, Makati, and AmiSa Private Residences in Mactan, Cebu—that seamless pampered experience translates to a roster of concierge services offered only in five-star hotels by a dedicated property management team. From a bellhop and restaurant reservations, to housekeeping and shoe polish services, plus unit leasing in the case of AmiSa Private Residences, these perks are all part of the prestigious lifestyle ready to desire.

For May L. Precilla, Robinsons Land Corporation vice president, head of sales and marketing, the pampered experience extends to the unmatched efficiency. AmiSa's Tower B, for instance, beat its September 2012 turnover date by three months; the Sonata Private Residences, meanwhile, is slated for completion in the third quarter of the year, well ahead of its December 2013 date.

More than adequate resources are a factor in fast finishes, but for Precilla, it's simply a reflection of Robinsons Land Corporation's commitment to stick to its word. "We try our best to deliver as we promise, or better," she says. "That's always been the culture of the company and its owners."

Call: (Manila) 0922-7770717 or 02-397-0000; (Cebu) 0917-556-9840 or 032-268-0000. Visit www.robinsonsluxuria.com



Leisure living in AmiSa in the most ideal location amidst the stunning seascape of Mactan, Cebu



Pamper yourself at the pools and clubhouse of AmiSa Private Residences in Mactan, Cebu.



First-class suite living in iconic architecture and interior design concepts: a one-bedroom model unit of Signa Designer Residences.



A one-bedroom model unit of Signa Designer Residences Tower I



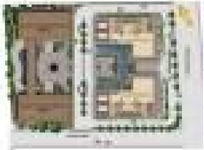
"We differentiate ourselves further by substantiating the promise to luxuriate by offering a seamless, pampered experience."—Mylestte V. Aragon-Gobio, Robinsons Land Corporation's vice president for business development and financing

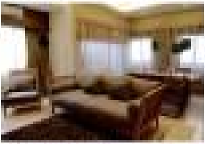


The attention to service and detail in Robinsons Luxuria developments creates a unique experience and personalizes the owners' lifestyle.



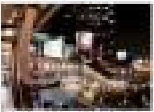
Suite living in Signa Designer Residences' distinctive style of architecture.







A harmony of design, location, and service







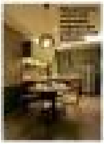




Living the high life
at Signa Designer Residences







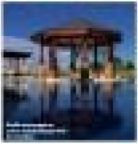


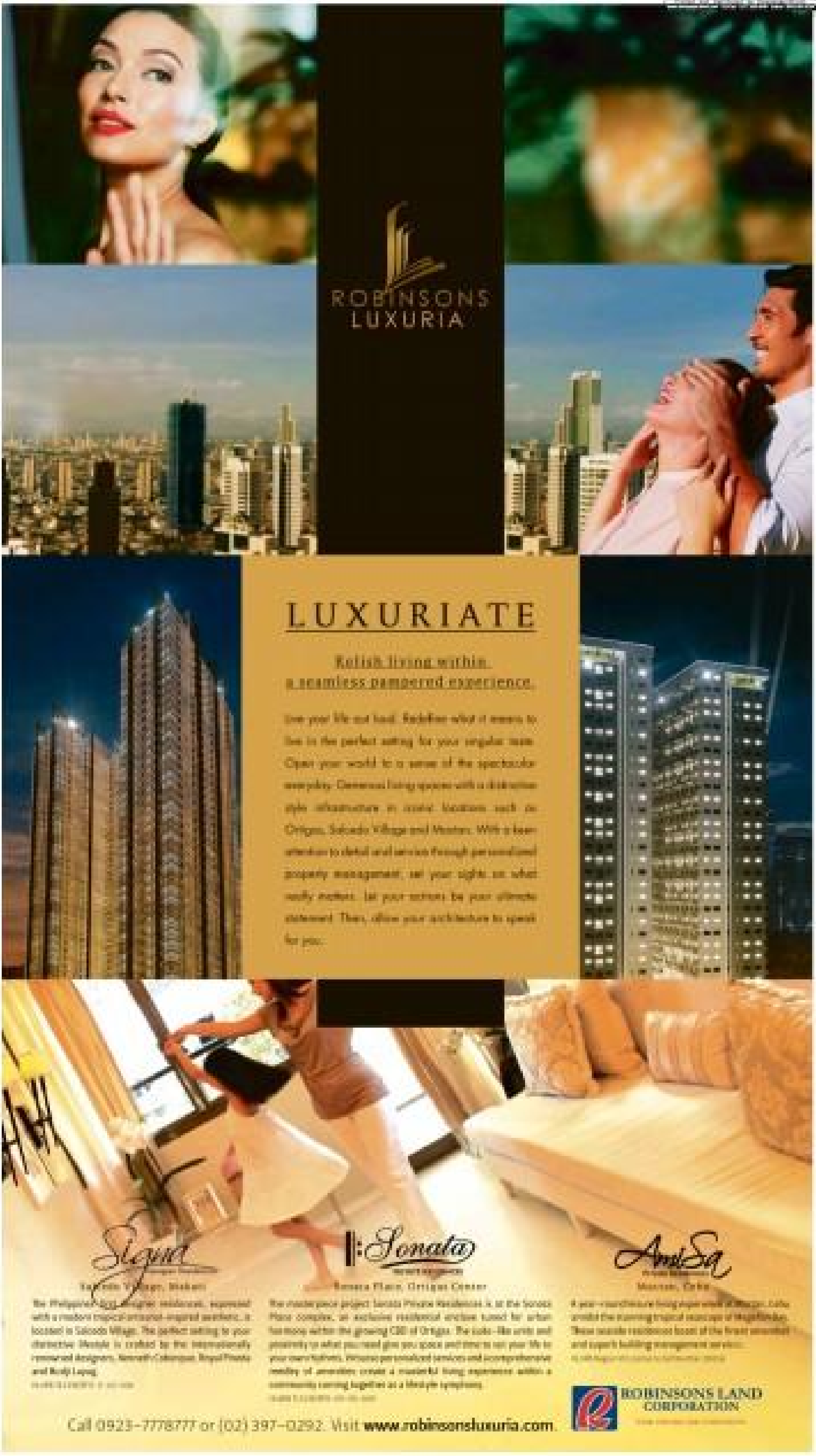
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ENTERTAINMENT



TV5 launches US channels

'Wil Time Bigtime' to usher in network's international expansion











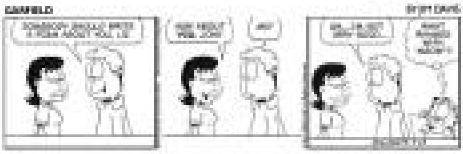
Indie director's latest project in limbo

Although a crowd-drawer in Cinemalaya, 'Sponsor' might get an 'X' rating due to a sex scene





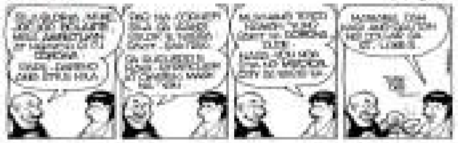
GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



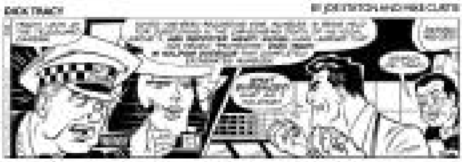
A. LIPIN — BY JESS ABRERA

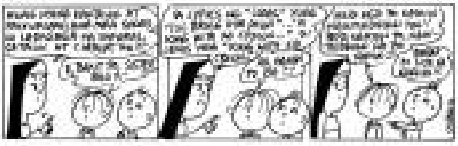


PUGAD BABOY — BY PM JUNIOR



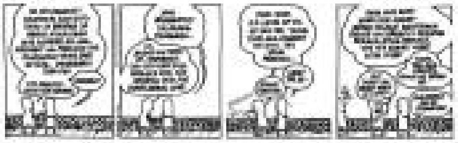
DICK TRACY — BY JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



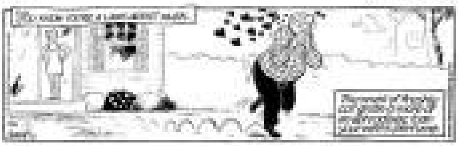


BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

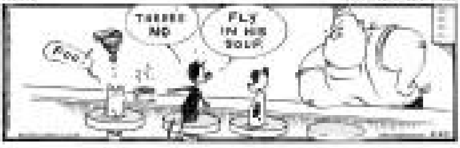




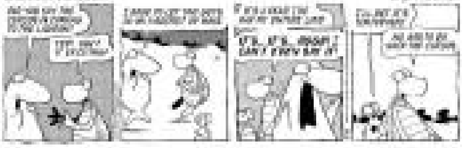
BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



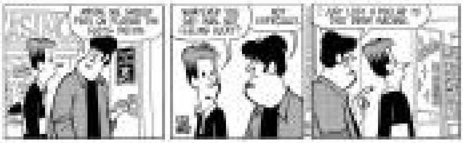
MUTTS — BY PATRICK MCDONNELL



SHERMAN'S LAGOON — BY JIM TOOMEY



DUSTIN — BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER





CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

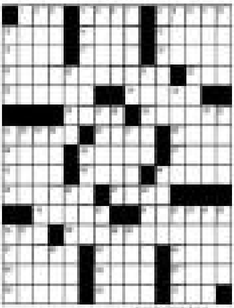
HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

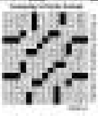
Conceptis Sudoku

3		4		6		2		1
5			1		4			7
	8						4	
6				2				5
	2						3	
9			6		5			8
2		3		8		7		6

Difficulty Level ★★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





Indie director's latest project





POWER PLANT
CINEMA

MEN IN BLACK 3

STREETDANCE 2

MEN IN BLACK 3

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1. STREETDANCE 2
2. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE
3. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
4. THE RAVEN
5. THE AVENGERS/DARK SHADOWS
6. MEN IN BLACK 3
7. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING

GREENBELT 1
1. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE
2. MEN IN BLACK 3

GREENBELT 3
1. MEN IN BLACK 3
2. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
3. THE RAVEN
4. STREETDANCE 2
5. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1. MEN IN BLACK 3
2. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
3. STREETDANCE 2
4. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING/SAFE
5. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1. MEN IN BLACK 3
2. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE
3. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
4. STREETDANCE 2

MARQUEE
1. MEN IN BLACK 3
2. MEN IN BLACK (3D)
3. STREETDANCE 2
4. 21 JUMP STREET

MARKET! MARKET!
1. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
2. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING
3. THE AVENGERS/DARK SHADOWS
4. STREETDANCE 2
5. MEN IN BLACK 3
6. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE
7. RESERVED

TRINOMA
1. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE
2. THE RAVEN
3. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
4. STREETDANCE 2
5. THE AVENGERS/DARK SHADOWS
6. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING
7. MEN IN BLACK 3

ABREEZA
1. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
2. MEN IN BLACK 3
3. STREETDANCE 2
4. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE

HARBOR POINT
1. SOON TO OPEN
2. SOON TO OPEN
3. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)
4. MEN IN BLACK 3 (3D)

Movie schedules may change without prior notice.

For verification, please call 729-7777.

MOVIE SPECIAL

HARBOR POINT



HARBOR POINT CINEMAS

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MALL SPECIAL



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presents
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MJ's 'Bad' returns with outtakes, DVD





Joe Jonas' Ayala Malls tour starts today

A duet with Jessica!

ENTERTAINMENT



Jessica's amazing feat

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

Enormous support

Female-driven shift

Jessica's...



FILIPINO-AMERICAN fans show their support for Jessica Sanchez at the Nokia Theatre.

'Best hope'



JESSICA Sanchez and Phillip Phillips answer questions from the media backstage after the results.



Indie actress' toughest role is wearing producer's hat

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

Hard-hitting drama

Help from friends

Loveless Coco fears dating show biz girls

By Marinel R. Cruz

First rom-com film

Breadwinner



Tweaking the mermaid character

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

Successful formula

Philippines HEALTH & WELLNESS Travel

A Guide to World-Class Healthcare & Travel Destinations in the Philippines

PH leads way to stem cell therapy

FIRST PART OF SERIES

By Charles E. Buban and Joyce Socao-Albero

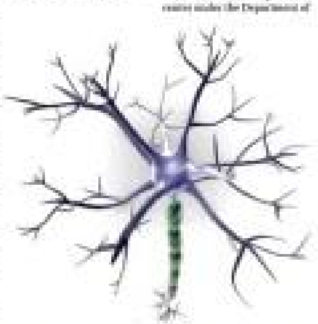
IN A 1962 experiment, microbiologist Dr. Leonard Hayflick made a grim discovery that human cells grown in tissue culture would only divide a certain number of times, presumably because the telomeres—special DNA sequences found at the tips of chromosomes located within the nucleus of the cells—shorten to a critical length.

In other words, if telomeres become too short to allow cell replication, the cell stops dividing and will ultimately die.

This led Hayflick to realize that even if an individual goes through life without contracting a deadly disease or succumbing to a fatal accident, that person will still die when enough of his cells ceased dividing. This phenomenon now known as the "Hayflick Limit," sets an unsurpassable lifespan for our species at just over 120 years.

Interestingly, this has not discouraged us from trying to challenge the Hayflick Limit, learning new ways to live a healthier life as well as using scientifically proven medication or procedure to fend off diseases or at least keep in check what already ails us. Should the necessity arise, we will not hesitate on getting our damaged tissue or organ "fixed" if not totally replaced as long as we achieve the quality of life we desire.

Of course, there are experts and institutions to help us in our quest to enjoy longer, healthier, happier lives—using stem cell-based therapy.



New concept

"Stem cell-based therapy is emerging as a new concept for the treatment of various diseases. Owing to the extraordinary advances taking place in the field of cellular and molecular biology, we are slowly moving from just offering mechanical cures to biological solutions," said Dr. Dante Dator, deputy executive director of the National Kidney and Transplant Institute in East Avenue, Quezon City.

The NKTI is a tertiary medical center under the Department of Health which primarily specializes in kidney diseases and organ transplantation. It was the first government hospital in the country to earn an ISO certification and is currently considered as a leader in its field in Asia.

The NKTI, which pioneered stem cell transplantation in the country in 1990 (and has been performing peripheral blood stem cell transplant since 2001), has upgraded and modernized its facilities with equipment at par with those found in the United States. Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics lab, which has already been working on Dendritic Cell Vaccine therapy for cancers (prostate, kidney, breast, lung, liver, colon, gastric, pancreas, cervix, uterine, ovary, myeloma, and lymphoma) together with its sister hospital Lung Center of the Philippines.

"A lot of people may not know this, but NKTI's Stem Cell Transplantation Program has been performing blood and bone marrow transplantation procedures for years and had improved survival for a number of our patients who suffer from diseases like leukemias and lymphomas," shared Dator.

Facility capability

Dator reported that to further strengthen NKTI's facility's capability to match the modern times drive, the hospital has been sending off staff to work with the world's leading institutions.

"The Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine is a leader in translating scientific discovery into clinical therapies and I had the privilege to work with world-renowned physicians and scientists whose goal is to find a cure, rather than merely to treat a disease. The WFIRM was the first in the world to engineer laboratory-grown organs that were successfully implanted into humans and this was the tissue-engineered bladder, which was pioneered by Dr. Anthony Atala, the Institute's director and chair of the Department of Urology of Wake Forest School of Medicine," said Dr. [illegible] of NKTI's Department of Urology.

Atala had been working to build bladders from patient's own cells since 1990 and in 1999 implanted the first organ in a patient. In 2006, Atala reported the long-term results in seven children who had the surgery which showed that the implanted bladders had improved function over time and are durable.

She reported that her two-

PH LEADS, B

Editor's Message

[illegible]

JOYCE SOCAO-ALBERO



HI-PRECISION DIAGNOSTICS:

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Nurture Spa Village celebrates a decade of wellness



Philippines to be headquarters of stem cell therapy and research hub of Asia





WORKSHOP FOR IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS FOR SMALL HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS

THE WORKSHOP for Implementing International Accreditation Standards for Small HealthCare Organizations was successfully held last May 7 and 8 at the MediCard Lifestyle Center in Makati City. Shown in photo are NABH International faculties (front row, fourth to sixth from left) Dr. Antony Basile, Dr. Arati Verma and Joyce-Rosario Moreno, executive director of HealthCORE along with the participants: (front row, from left) Cheryn Martin (Primarycare Plus); Marinel Rolano (MediCard), Ma. Bergonia (MediCard), Dr. Elenita Simondac-Basco (Westlake Med. Center); Ma. Veronica Edades (MediCard); Sherry Ba-Ana (MediCard); Jane Fallaugon (MediCard); (second row, from left) Dr. Ma. Olive Lazo (Patient First Med. Center), Dr. Generose Antonio (Patient First Med. Center); Louise Marie Flores (ANSAP), Marie Therese Peralta (ANSAP), Maria Linda Buhat (ANSAP); Dr. Gil Yares (DOHHS-Genas); Beverly Lozanes (MediCard); Marisabel Santiesteban (MediCard), Dr. Catherine Jimenez (MediCard); Ray Irala (MediCard); (third row, from left) Dr. Nicky Montoya (MediCard), Nobell Isabelo (Antipolo Doc. Hospital); Dr. Pascual Petted (Taguig Dist. Hospital / St. Therese Multi-Specialty Services); Dr. Basilio Basilio Jr. (Antipolo Dist. Hospital / St. Therese Multi-Specialty Services); Hilda Silvano (DOH); Dr. Junell Bonigues (St. Anthony Med. Center); Engr. Roland Alfonso (DOH). Not in photo: Lorena Nash (MediCard), Janet Torbio (St. Anthony Med. Center). **For the schedule of upcoming workshops, please visit www.healthcore.com.ph.**



PH leads way to stem cell therapy

'Why would a Filipino seeking the very best care stay here in the Philippines and not to fly to the United States? The answer is Personalized Molecular Medicine—which is very labor intensive, requiring a large number of trained molecular biologists and biochemists who work closely with clinicians in customizing treatment according to the molecular characteristics of the patient's condition'



DR. SAMUEL Bernal, a world-renowned Filipino-American cancer specialist and molecular biologist, UCLA Professor Emeritus in Medicine and consultant-adviser to The Medical City's Regenerative Program at the TMC's laboratory

The most effective and safest cells to use for treatments in humans are human adult cells (especially the natural healing cells from the bone marrow) and human umbilical cord cells, according to Bernal. Human adult and umbilical cord stem cells are also morally, ethically and legally acceptable, unlike embryonic, aborted fetus, genetically altered, and animal stem cells.

No longer impossible

Leader

"Many Filipinos may not realize this but the Philippines is now regarded as one of the leaders in regenerative medicine considering that a number of medical institutions here, The Medical City included, have spent not only hundreds of millions of dollars in acquiring the latest and most sophisticated equipment but also in acquiring personnel who trained under the watchful eye of world renowned experts if not pioneers in their respective fields," Bernal said.



STEM cells being processed at the NKTI's Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics Laboratory



"A LOT of people may not know this, but NKTI's Stem Cell Transplantation Program has been performing blood and bone marrow transplantation procedures for years and had improved survival for a number of our patients who suffer from diseases like leukemias and lymphomas," shared NKTI deputy executive director Dr. Dante Dator.



Beefing up

The future of anti-aging and rejuvenation

By Charles E. Buban



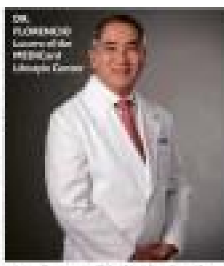
71 years old (BEFORE)



(AFTER 3 MONTHS)

Anti-aging

Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP)



PH leads way to stem cell therapy

From page 6

Our laboratory is unmatched in terms of providing the best cellular product or quality. In comparison with other laboratories, the lab is at least three notches better in providing a sterile environment. In fact, the Biosafety Level 3 instituted here is at least one or two notches higher than what is recommended by the US Food and Drug Administration. Moreover, as part of the routine procedure, the facility is continuously monitored for its sterility," assured Dr. Francis Chung, scientific officer of the Cellular Therapeutics Laboratory's Stem Cell Lab.

He related that in cases wherein the stem cells will be sourced out from a donor, the MMC Cellular Therapeutics Laboratory has the ability to identify a possible cross-match—using 10-point DNA matching—for the recipient. "We have the technology to grade this cellular transplantation process that will significantly minimize complications," said Chung.

Stem cell transplant for eyes

In 2009, St. Luke's Medical Center made history when the hospital's International Eye Institute successfully performed a conjunctival stem cell transplant on a 52-year-old indigent male—harvesting healthy stem cells from his remaining good eye and then transplanted it to his injured eye, replacing the missing cells.

Presently, the hospital's Stem Cell Research and Biotechnology Division is busy doing a lot of work on stem cell-based therapy and at the same time working closely with cardiology, vascular medicine, cancer, neurology, ophthalmology and dermatology department in order to explore and document their experience in their respective field.

Dr. Mark Pierre Dimamay of St. Luke's Medical Center Stem Cell Research and Biotechnology Division reported that the hospital has also established collaborations with leading institutions namely Singapore's Eye Research Institute, Korea's Hanyang University, United States' University of Miami, and Germany's TIGEN (a highly innovative German life science company, working in the field of stem cell research and regenerative medicine).

Dimamay also shared that the hospital also completed its equipment and requirements for growing human cells. "The entire process of collecting cells from the patient, processing and growing them can be done at SLMC. We have also applied for the Philippine Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practice certification to ensure that the cells that we processes are made in accordance to international standards. We also acquired a cell-sorting equipment—known as the Clini-MACS—and applied the standard cell culture techniques for growing the stem cells. To develop the technical skills in growing stem cells, we underwent training abroad like Singapore Eye Research Institute for growing ocular stem cells," he explained.

Dimamay added that being able to grow stem cells and get pure stem cell populations is helpful in treating a variety of degenerative diseases. "One should realize that adult stem cells are few in number and if these cells can be grown and allowed to multiply in the laboratory, more stem cells can be potentially used for treatment. The cell sorter that we acquired will ensure that the cells being given to the patient are pure stem cells, without any other cellular contaminants."

Dr. Jenny Ciasaning, St. Luke's Medical Center (SLMC) chief medical officer and SVP for medical affairs said that the hospital is conducting clinical trials as well as testing to gather evidence and data on a per disease basis to prove if such treatments really work.

Ciasaning and Dimamay believe this will increase the credibility of the treatments offered here in the Philippines adding that in the absence of such clinical trials, anyone can offer stem cell therapy at a high premium, and just leave the results of the treatment by chance. "If the treatments don't work, then the reputation of the institution and even the Philippines would be at stake," Dimamay explained.

NEXT ISSUE: APPLICATIONS AND SOURCES OF STEM CELL THERAPY

A mother's instinct to protect

EVERYTHING starts falling into place with the one spark of good news.

"My husband and I were going to have our annual medical check-up when the technician came out of the lab and said, 'You cannot have your chest X-ray.' When I asked why, he said, 'Because you're pregnant.'

"We were so happy when we heard the news that we actually told the technician to go back inside the lab, come out again, and announce it a second time around. As with all amazing milestones in my life, getting pregnant with our second child was a true blessing," shares excited wife and mompreneur, Mutya Lara Buenconsejo.

For pregnant moms, carrying a baby is a journey. With all the months of taking the right diet and supplements, going through numerous doctor visits, and shopping for baby clothes, there will always be that extra mile mothers will take to further their preparations and ensure the utmost wellbeing of their new baby.

"Being a mother of two, I tend to get worried about my babies' health. Children can easily catch a cold or get into an accident, and it's hard when they can't articulate how they feel or when something hurts," says Mutya. "This is why I was very relieved when I learned about the availability and benefits of cord blood banking here in the Philippines. I think it is an important investment, given its ability to biologically save my babies in the event of serious diseases."

Today, nothing is impossible with medical science. The benefits of cord blood banking can only get better in the future. According to Dr. Frando, medical representative for CordLife, the stem cells contained in a cord blood are the key component of the whole treatment. Such storage of cord blood is done by specialized medical facilities called cord blood banks."

The foundation of cord blood banking involves the use of cord blood stem cells collected from a baby's umbilical cord immediately following birth. Stem cells replenish the blood and immune system, and act as one of the most effective and natural ways for the body to be healed and revitalized. This means that if a child develops leukemia, treating him with stem cells will stimulate his immune system to develop new red blood cells, which in turn, will help him recover from cancer.

In the Philippines, CordLife—the world-class cord blood processing and storage facility that is ISO 9001:2008 certified and is accredited by the DOH (Department of Health)—is the first cord blood processing and storage facility in the country that follows the stringent procedures of American Association of Blood Banks to ensure that your baby gets the full potential factors essential to securing his health.

"There is a calmness I feel being a mother of two," Mutya describes. "It makes me see the world and the future in a different light, and it makes me a better person everyday. It serves as a challenge, a learning process and a gift all rolled into one. And with CordLife by my side, I know that I have a steadfast partner in safeguarding the future of my precious ones."

For more information on CordLife and cord blood banking, visit www.cordlife.com/ph or call 710.8101.



MUTYA Lara Buenconsejo believes that cord blood banking is an important investment, given its ability to biologically save her babies in the event of serious diseases.

La Breza Tower: your place for well-being

THOSE seeking the less stressful, quieter and more relaxing suburban lifestyle will find it in La Breza Tower, the 22-storey mix-use residential and condominium property is strategically located in the idyllic, suburban environment of Diliman, Quezon City.

The Diliman area still retains the relaxing, quiet and spacious features of suburbia. There is still ample greenery and there is no crowding, in contrast to places like Makati and Ortigas. It is the perfect place to rest, recharge and make plans for future projects and achievements.

A unit at La Breza Tower is an investment in a lifestyle of health and wellness. Its luxurious amenities offer the peak of exclusive, comfortable and secure living. It is ideal for professionals, young families and empty-nesters who wish to enjoy the best of both worlds: a comfortable, relaxing and private hideaway that takes them away from the stresses of workaday life, while offering them the convenience and excitement of an urban, cosmopolitan existence.

La Breza Tower also puts residents in close proximity to the city's world-class medical facilities like the NKTI (National Kidney and Transplant Institute), the Lung Center of the Philippines and the Philippine Heart Center. There are also many spas and specialty clinics in the area as well.

La Breza Tower's amenities include the La Breza restaurant serving healthy Filipino and world cuisine; the gym that offers a complete fitness experience with cardio machines and weight machines, along free weights. The gym is adjacent to the open air pool area with a beautiful infinity pool for adults, a kiddie pool and a Jacuzzi, surrounded by refreshing greenery.

La Breza Tower is strategically located along Mother Ignacia Street, close to EDSA—the main artery of Metro Manila—offers easy access to any point in the metropolis. From there, residents and guests may easily travel to Metro Manila's centers of business, leisure, entertainment, sports, shopping, and healthcare in Quezon City, Ortigas, Makati and Fort Bonifacio. Transportation is very convenient as the EDSA thoroughfare has abundant taxicabs, buses and the Metro Railway Transit (MRT).

La Breza's prime location makes it advantageous for investors who are looking to lease their units to short-term and long-term lessees. La Breza will also manage the leased units to ensure that a quality living environment is maintained.

The nightlife on both nearby Timog and Tomas Morato avenues offers more opportunities for relaxation and recreation, as they are lined with restaurants and bars of every variety, offering an entire range of cuisines from all over the world—from Italian to Japanese, Filipino to Chinese, Fusion to Mediterranean, to American fast foods and comfort food.

There are also specialty dessert shops and coffee shops, as well as KTV establishments. There is always variety and excitement during a night of food-tripping along Timog and Tomas Morato.

The luxurious five-star quality marble and carpeted interiors and soft lighting evoke feelings of security and relaxation, while large glass panels allow natural light to enter these areas. The Lift Lobby and the hallways on each floor are spacious enough to give residents comfort to passing residents and guests.

There's also a commercial area with restaurants and boutiques, banquet and function rooms. The residential and residential areas have studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units. Residents and guests enjoy ample parking spaces and 24-hour security.

They have a choice of receiving a bare unit (already with finishing) or a fully furnished one (available at some additional cost). Studio units may be converted to a one bedroom unit, while a one-bedroom unit may be expanded to a two-bedroom one.

Units include bedroom, closet and living areas, kitchen and dining, and bathroom. Most of the rooms have a garden and a larger balcony offering a wider view of the city. La Breza units are available for purchase by residents and investors and its conduct is a favorite of foreign guests, celebrities and professionals who wish to enjoy the excellent service, luxury amenities and convenient location.

La Breza Tower is owned and developed by Sta. Lucia Realty and Development, Inc., one of the pioneering and most trusted developers in the Philippines. Architectural design is by WV Coscolluela and Associates while interior design is by Songcuang & Partners.

Interested parties may get in touch with Royale Homes Marketing Corporation, which is exclusively marketing this luxurious hideaway. For more information, visit www.royale-homes.ph or call 932 584-1104 or 0922-8575078.



Sta. Lucia Residenze: A Perfect Refuge in the City

In this day and age, with demands from career and work, as well as the requirements of raising a family, increase as never before, living with comfort and convenience are prime for health and life balance.

In the eastern side of the Metro, perhaps no residential development is set to offer outstanding comfort, luxury and convenience as the soon-to-rise Sta. Lucia Residenze.

Redefining Condo Living

The Sta. Lucia Residenze is a master-planned community composed of five residential towers that is beautifully architectured to pay homage to the stylish beauty of the cities of the Mediterranean.

With the architectural and interior design of residential buildings led by the topnotch architectural firm of W.V. Coscolluela & Associates with interior design by Songsong & Panopio, the newest residential high-rise community in the east is set to redefine condominium living. It promises to become the newest and trendiest landmark high-rise residential community with its fashionable and elegant design, gazebos and sports facilities, superior swimming pool and landscaped garden amenities that are not present in other masterplanned communities nearby.

Moreover, the five-tower residential complex will be linked to the Sta. Lucia Mall, one of the country's favorite shopping and entertainment destinations – ensuring great convenience to the Residenze's future owners and residents. The mall boasts of the best commercial establishments from leisure, dining, entertainment and full department store, with specialty boutiques, as well as banks, hardware shops, pharmacies, internet shops and BPO institutions inside the complex. Here, everything that the modern-day individual needs is within easy reach.

The Sta. Lucia Residenze shall boast of its own upscale mall that will be connecting the five towers when fully finished to quickly and conveniently serve the needs of the future residents of the five-tower complex.

This mall links the five towers at the ground floor and the first two floors of the towers will house high-end and famous retail shops. This spells incomparable superiority since the the Sta. Lucia Mall is just a walking walk away from Sta. Lucia Residenze. What more can the modern urban homeowner can want?

Elegant Living, Comfort and Pleasures

For many of today's families and single individuals who prefer to be independent and to have their own place to call home, condo living has become an affordable and at the same time more convenient alternative to a conventional house-and-lot home.

Residenze offers unmatched comfort, convenience and luxury in condo living, as the the residential component of the Sta. Lucia Centre, the masterplanned community of Sta. Lucia Land, Inc., one of the country's most premiere property developers. In the blueprint also are office buildings and beautified walkways that will connect Residenze to the Mall and the Boulevard dining complex, that promise to make it one of the more livable and comfortable communities in this side of the metro.

In the Center of it All

The Sta. Lucia Residenze is at the cusp of the progressive cities of Marikina, Pasig and Antipolo, and the municipality of Cainta. Located beside one of Metro Manila's prime shopping destinations, the Sta. Lucia Mall, the project will be the future residential centerpiece of the soon-to-be-launched Sta. Lucia Centre, the next big thing in masterplanned communities in the eastern part of the Metro.

Sta. Lucia Residenze is just minutes away from the LRT 2 terminal in Santolan, Pasig which connects to the EDSA-MRT at Cubao, Quezon City and to the LRT 1 line that traverses the Pasay-Manila-Caloocan corridor. And it offers outstanding location and accessibility.

Monte Carlo Soon to Break Ground

Monte Carlo, the first of the five-tower Sta. Lucia Residenze condominium complex, will soon break ground at the Sta. Lucia Center. It will bring to life the vibrant energy of one of Europe's most popular tourist hotspots.

This 21-storey residential tower offers 258 units composed of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units including a limited number of units, much less dense that the traditional cramped condominiums currently being offered by other developers.

For those who pay for the luxury to be at the top (17th to 21st floors) are the one- and two-bedroom units, giving a bird's eye view of the Antipolo and San Mateo hills rising on the east and the Marikina and Pasig valley at opposite sides. For the practical-minded are the studio units which are located at the 2nd to 16th floors, 16 of the studio units are at the 2nd floor recreation area that have their own piece of the garden facing the common landscaped garden grounds.

All units come fully finished with complete kitchen and bathroom. The future Monte Carlo residents will thus have the privilege of owning the newest condominium and be part of the future landmark that is Sta.Lucia Residenze.

Register now and make the wise move. For more information, visit www.royalehomes.ph or call (02) 584-1164 or 09228575078.



PALAWAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Barangay Tiniguiban, Puerto Princesa City

NOTICE OF DIRECT PROCUREMENT

With the approval of Board Resolution No. 093, series of 2012, the Palawan Electric Cooperative (Paleco), Inc. decided to resort to direct procurement as the alternative method for the purchase/acquisition of hard wooden poles purposely for the expansion and upgrading of its electric distribution lines.

The description and specification of the subject item is as follows:

Standard creosoted southern yellow pine, Australian hardwood poles treated with Chromate Copper Arsenate:

200 pieces 25 footer
400 pieces 30 footer
900 pieces 35 footer
135 pieces 40 footer
20 pieces 45 footer
10 pieces 50 footer

Quotation for the hardwood should be separated from the handling and shipment costs.

Interested parties are invited to submit their price quotation to the Bids and Awards Committee (BACOM) Secretariat at the HRD & Administrative Department, Paleco Main Office, Tiniguiban, Puerto Princesa City until 10 o'clock in the morning of 11 June 2012.

(Sgd.) Atty. ROMMA R. SARRA
General Manager

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A

May 25, 2012

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permits:

	Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name and Citizenship of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Functions
1	E-WORLD KSS CORPORATION, CBEP, Cavite	Mr. Donghee Kim, Korean	Clean Room Manager
2	K & K MOLDING, INC. Lima Technology Center, Lipa City, Batangas	Mr. Katsumi Takagi, Japanese	Consultant
3	F. TECH PHILIPPINES MFG., INC. Laguna Technopark, Biñan, Laguna	Mr. Toshihiko Arisaka, Japanese	Assistant Vice President – Aluminum Die Cast
4	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY PHILS., INC. Brgy. San Jose, Sto. Tomas City, Laguna	Mr. Akira Tanabe, Japanese	Executive Officer
5	PHILIPPINE TOYO CHEMICAL CORPORATION, PEZA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Hiroshi Kondo, Japanese	Production Planning & Control Manager
6	PHILCASTLE, INC. [illegible], Cavite	Mr. Seong Ho Kang, Korean	President
7	LAGUNA AUTO-PARTS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION, Laguna Technopark, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna	Mr. Masahiro Sakai, Japanese	General Manager
8	S & L ELECTRONICS, INC. CPIP, Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Jaehak Ahn, Korean	Director
9	S & L ELECTRONICS, INC. CPIP, Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Jong Kung Hur, Korean	Manager
10	S & L ELECTRONICS, INC. CPIP, Calamba City, Laguna	Mr. Taeho Hur, Korean	Deputy General Manager
11	[illegible] PHILIPPINES, INC. PEZA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Nobuhisa Okuda, Japanese	General Manager
12	AMERICAN POWER CONVERSION CORP. (A.P.C.) B.V.	Mr. Christopher Jay Goldman, American	Business Process Manager
13	[illegible] PHILIPPINES, INC. FCIE, Brgy. Langkaan, Dasmariñas, Cavite	Mr. Kozo Okada, Japanese	Manufacturing General Manager
14	WILLEE S.A. PHILIPPINES BRANCH, Laguna Technopark, Biñan, Laguna	Mr. [illegible], Japanese	Global Business Development Manager
15	WILLEE S.A. PHILIPPINES BRANCH, Laguna Technopark, Biñan, Laguna	Mr. [illegible], Japanese	Purchasing Supervisor
16	[illegible] RUBBER MANUFACTURING CORPORATION, Lima Technology Center, Lipa City, Batangas	Mr. Kenichi Matsushima, Japanese	President
17	ALL - OFW CONSULTANCY INC. c/o AG & P Bauan, Batangas	Mr. David Howard Keith, British	Project Engineering Manager
18	BECHTEL OVERSEAS CORPORATION c/o AG & P Bauan, Batangas	Mr. [illegible] Thomas, American	Test & Commissioning Coordinator
19	BECHTEL OVERSEAS CORPORATION c/o AG & P Bauan, Batangas	Mr. Ross Warren Baker, New Zealander	HSE Manager
20	BECHTEL OVERSEAS CORPORATION c/o AG & P Bauan, Batangas	Mr. Lon Earl Smith, American	Commercial Manager

If you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned application/s, please communicate with the Regional Director.

ALEX V. AVILA
CEO - Regional Director

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with the Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permits:

Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National/Citizenship	Position
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Software Engineer
[illegible]	[illegible]	Senior Consultant
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Country Manager
[illegible]	[illegible]	Sales Supervisor
[illegible]	[illegible]	Finance Manager
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	General Manager
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Project Manager
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Director
[illegible]	[illegible]	Sales Manager

If you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

Regional Director

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CUBAO

RUSH

AVIDA D'FORT

LOT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

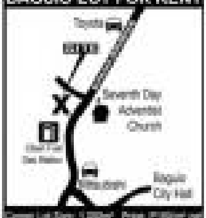
TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

JOB HIRING!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

DNP

BAGUIO LOT FOR RENT

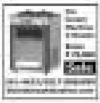


CAR LOANS

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

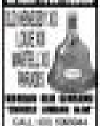
MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

OTHER EQUIPMENT



WANTED TO BUY

ROLEX



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3 units L300 w/ Alum. Van, model 1997, running condition

125k each

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INVITATION TO BID

DepED

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND

INVITATION TO SUBMIT BID/S TO LEASE

The Pag-IBIG Fund, otherwise known as HDMF, is inviting bids to lease by way of Individual Sealed Bids, real property (land) for commercial use with various sizes located at Manila Harbour Center, City of Manila.

The Terms of Reference and bid Proposal Forms can be secured, free of charge, from the Investment Department, 33rd Floor, Petron Mega Plaza Building, 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, starting May 25, 2012.

The Pre-Bid Conference shall be held on June 05, 2012. The schedule of the submission and opening of bids shall be announced during the said conference.

The Pag-IBIG Fund reserves the right to reject any or all bids or accept such proposals as may be considered advantageous. Further, the Pag-IBIG Fund assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify a proponent for expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of its bids.

For further inquiries and/or information, please call Jose Romnel G. Bayan at 840-41-80 or visit Pag-IBIG Fund Corporate website at http://www.pagibigfund.gov.ph or email us at jgbayan@pagibigfund.gov.ph

(Sgd.) EMMA LINDA B. FARIA
OCEO, Support Services Cluster

21st PCCI-South Luzon Area Business Conference

THE PHILIPPINE Chamber of Commerce and Industry will hold its 21st South Luzon Business Conference on June 14-15, 2012 at the Club Manila East Hotel & Leisure Resort, Taytay, Rizal with the theme "Driving Business Integration Towards Global Competitiveness".

For inquiries please call Ms. Paula Estrera at 0917-8855449.

More Classifieds on page...

DepEd Regional Office No. VII B2

Ilocos Sur Electric Cooperative B2

PLDT B7

OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

INVITATION TO BID

SUMMONS

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM

ORDER

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – SECURITY GUARDS SERVICE

The Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines has the intention to conclude, with a company specialised in the security of persons and of premises, a service contract for 48 months for the following services in Metro Manila:

1. Guarding services for its office building in Makati as well as for the residences of its officials
2. Installation and maintenance of the security systems for the officials' residence
3. Quick Reaction team
4. Installation of safe havens in the residence of the officials.

Details on the conditions of submission of the requests can be found on the website of the Delegation of the European Union:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/philippines/documents/press_corner/2012EPRS.pdf

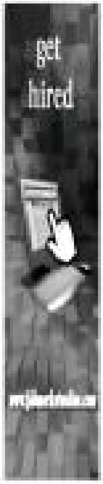
The deadline of submission of the request to participate is 11th June 2012.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Regional Office No. VIII
Government Center Candahug, Palo Leyte

INVITATION TO BID FOR
(CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS WITH TOILET AND FURNITURE) FOR Pre-Schools/Kindergarten IN REGION VIII)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DIVISION OF CAMARINES SUR

INVITATION TO BID



USED SERVICE VEHICLES FOR SALE

The AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS) through the AFP-RSBS Disposal Committee, invites interested parties to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties on "cash", "as-is, where-is" basis:

Item No.	Description	Owner	Minimum / Floor Price
1	One (1) unit 1997 Toyota Corolla XE	RSBS	₱60,000.00
2	One (1) unit 1996 Toyota Corolla XE	RSBS	₱60,000.00

For interested parties, please note the following activities that will be held at the Board Room, AFP-RSBS, 424 Capinpin Avenue, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.:

Pre-Bidding Conference	Deadline for Acceptance of Bids	Opening of Sealed Bids
May 31, 2012 9:00 a.m.	June 7, 2012 9:00 a.m.	June 7, 2012 9:30 a.m.

Bidding documents shall be available starting June 1, 2012 at the General Services Department (GSD), AFP-RSBS Bldg., 424 Capinpin Avenue, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

For inquiries, please call Irene or Joan at 912-1080 or 912-1888 during office hours.

(Sgd.) GENELIZA T. HIZON
Chairman, Disposal Committee

ANNOUNCEMENT

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Cel: (0917)6235326
(0917)6274392



INVITATION TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL MARITIME POLYTECHNIC (NMP)

[illegible]

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL MARITIME POLYTECHNIC

[illegible]

INVITATION TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL MARITIME POLYTECHNIC (NMP)

[illegible]

Purchase of School Supplies

CITY OF ROXAS

[illegible]

INVITATION TO BID

EASTERN VISAYAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

[illegible]

INVITATION TO BID

DepED

[illegible]



[illegible]

NFA executive reshuffle reflects gender equality and affinity with Moslem brothers

[illegible]